



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held August 8, 2006, the Board took the following action:

54

At the time and place regularly set, notice having been duly given, the following item was called up:

Hearing on proposed extension of interim Urgency Ordinance No. 2006-0050U which temporarily imposes additional development standards and restrictions for site plan approval to drill any new oil well or to deepen any existing well on Heavy Agricultural (A-2) and Restricted Heavy Manufacturing (M-1 1/2) zoned properties in the unincorporated Baldwin Hills Zoned District (2), as further detailed in the attached letter dated July 27, 2006 from the Acting Director of Planning.

All persons wishing to testify were sworn in by the Executive Officer of the Board. Mark Child representing the Department of Regional Planning was duly sworn and testified. Opportunity was given for interested persons to address the Board. George Mallory, Gary Gless and Leighton Rose addressed the Board. Correspondence was presented.

Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

"The Baldwin Hills area has included oil and gas production operations dating back to the 1920s. The County first analyzed environmental impacts from oil production in Baldwin Hills as part of its Environmental Impact Report for the adoption of the General Plan in 1980. Oil and gas production facilities in the area are consistent with the General Plan.

"It is now time for the County to undertake additional environmental review and to consider new regulations.

(Continued on Page 2)

URBAN ENCROACHMENT

“However, we must face the fact these activities now operate within the midst of a densely populated urban area. Within recent months, complaints from nearby residents were reported and, on at least one occasion, a notice of violation was issued as odors attributed to oil well operations were considered a nuisance. These complaints coincide with an upsurge in the drilling and deepening of new oil wells in this area.

IMMEDIATE REACTION – STANDSTILL

“In quick response, the County entered into a three-party tolling agreement between the County, the City of Culver City and the oil company. The tolling agreement was an immediate reaction to the nearby resident’s complaints and reduced the intensity of oil drilling operations in Baldwin Hills.

PLOT PLANS

“The County’s adoption of an interim urgency ordinance this past June further reduced the intensity of oil drilling operations in Baldwin Hills, required the oil company to comply with enhanced standards and monitoring, and required land use review by the Department of Regional Planning before new wells could be drilled or existing wells deepened.

“Today’s action will extend the interim urgency ordinance for an additional ten months and 15 days.

ENVIRONMENTAL, ZONING AND PARKLAND STUDIES WITH STATE AND CITY COOPERATION

“The extension will enable the County to undertake essential environmental and zoning studies that will help identify appropriate permanent regulations.

(Continued on Page 3)

“These important studies will necessarily include the active participation and expertise of the State Department of Conservation and the City of Culver City.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, duly carried by the following vote: Ayes: Supervisors Burke, Yaroslavsky, Knabe and Antonovich; Noes: None (Supervisor Molina being absent), the Board closed the hearing and took the following actions:

1. Approved the extension of Interim Urgency Ordinance No. 2006-0050U which temporarily imposes additional development standards and restrictions for site plan approval to drill any new oil well or to deepen any existing well on Heavy Agricultural (A-2) and Restricted Heavy Manufacturing (M-1 1/2) zoned properties in the unincorporated Baldwin Hills Zoned District; and
2. Adopted the attached Ordinance No. 2006-0064U entitled, “An ordinance extending Interim Ordinance No. 2006-0050U, temporarily regulating the use of Heavy Agricultural (A-2) and Restricted Heavy Manufacturing (M-1½) zoned property in the Baldwin Hills Zoned District and declaring the urgency thereof and that this ordinance take effect on August 11, 2006.

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Attachments

Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Acting Director of Planning